

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 1 and 15 to 18 as shown below. The claims, as pending in the subject application, now read as follows:

1. An image processing system having plural devices, including a device capable of executing predetermined image processing, interconnected via a serial bus, wherein a processing program for execution of said image processing is downloaded from said device capable of executing predetermined image processing to a device, which does not have a function of executing said image processing, among said plural devices, ~~without a function of executing said image processing, and~~

wherein processing performance information indicating performance of executing said image processing based on the downloaded processing program is obtained from each of said plural devices, and

~~further~~ wherein an executing device to execute said image processing is determined from said plural devices based on said processing performance information.

2. (Original) The image processing system according to claim 1, wherein said processing performance information is obtained at each of plural processing steps constructing said image processing.

3. (Original) The image processing system according to claim 2, wherein said processing performance information is obtained by measuring processing time upon execution of said image processing on predetermined sample image data.

4. (Original) The image processing system according to claim 2, wherein said executing device is determined at each of plural processing steps constructing said image processing based on said processing performance information.

5. (Original) The image processing system according to claim 1, wherein said executing device is determined so as to minimize the processing time of said image processing.

6. (Original) The image processing system according to claim 1, wherein transfer performance information indicating a data transfer speed between said plural devices is further obtained, and wherein said executing device is determined based on said transfer performance information.

7. (Original) The image processing system according to claim 1, wherein said execution program is downloaded between devices having a common operating system.

8. (Original) The image processing system according to claim 1, wherein said plural devices include an image supply device and an image printing device.

9. (Original) The image processing system according to claim 8, wherein said plural devices include a digital broadcast tuner, and wherein the processing program for execution of said image processing is downloaded to said tuner.

10. (Original) The image processing system according to claim 9, wherein said tuner is a set top box.

11. (Original) The image processing system according to claim 8, wherein said image processing is converting image data supplied from said image supply device to print data in said image printing device.

12. (Original) The image processing system according to claim 11, wherein said image supply device is a digital camera.

13. (Original) The image processing system according to claim 1, wherein said serial bus is adapted to or based on the IEEE 1394 standard.

14. (Original) The image processing system according to claim 1, wherein said serial bus is adapted to or based on the USB standard.

15. (Currently amended) A control method for controlling an image processing system having plural devices, including a device capable of executing predetermined image processing, interconnected via a serial bus, comprising the steps of:

downloading a processing program for execution of said image processing from said device capable of executing predetermined image processing to a device, which does not have a function of executing said image processing, among said plural devices ~~without a function of executing said image processing~~;

obtaining processing performance information indicating performance of executing said image processing based on the downloaded processing program from each of said plural devices; and

determining an executing device to execute said image processing from said plural devices based on said processing performance information.

16. (Currently amended) An image processing apparatus, connected to plural devices via a serial bus, capable of execution of predetermined image processing, wherein a processing program for execution of said image processing is downloaded to a device, which does not have a function of executing said image processing, among said plural devices, ~~without a function of executing said image processing, and~~

wherein processing performance information indicating performance of executing said image processing based on the downloaded processing program is obtained from each of said plural devices and said apparatus, and

~~further~~ wherein an executing device to execute said image processing is determined from said plural devices and said apparatus based on said processing performance information.

17. (Currently amended) An image processing apparatus, connected via a serial bus to plural devices including a device capable of executing predetermined image processing, said apparatus not having ~~being without~~ a function of executing said image processing, wherein a processing program for execution of said image processing is downloaded from said device capable of executing predetermined image processing, ~~[[and]]~~

wherein processing performance information indicating performance of executing said image processing based on the downloaded processing program is obtained from each of said plural devices and said apparatus, and

~~further~~ wherein an executing device to execute said image processing is determined from said plural devices and said apparatus based on said processing performance information.

18. (Currently amended) A recording medium holding a control program for controlling an image processing system having plural devices, including a device capable of executing predetermined image processing, interconnected via a serial bus, wherein said program comprises ~~comprising~~ at least:

code for downloading a processing program for execution of said image processing from said device capable of executing predetermined image processing to a device, which does not have a function of executing said image processing, among said plural devices ~~without a function of executing said image processing~~;

code for obtaining processing performance information indicating performance of executing said image processing based on the downloaded processing program from each of said plural devices; and

code for determining an executing device to execute said image processing from said plural dev ices based on said processing performance information.